

UCLA Faculty Association

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Wednesday, June 11, 2025

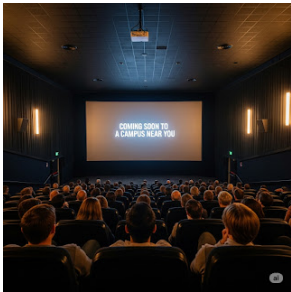
Coming Soon to a Campus Near You - Part 2

From [CNN](#): *The Trump administration is preparing to cancel a large swath of federal funding for California, an effort that could begin as soon as Friday, according to multiple sources. Agencies are being told to start identifying grants the administration can withhold from California. Sources said the administration is specifically considering a full termination of federal grant funding for the University of California and California State University systems...*

Singling out one state for massive cuts would be an unusual move, but President Donald Trump has long made Democratic-led California a target...

Two sources said that the administration is targeting California universities over alleged antisemitism on campus, an issue the schools have made efforts to address over the past year. The administration has already taken steps to punish Harvard and Columbia universities for similar reasons. The UC system is the state's third largest employer, and both systems are major engines of research in the biotechnology and medical fields, among others. It is unclear how the school systems plan to fight back, though it is possible they could be represented by the state's attorney general, Rob Bonta, a Democrat. CNN has reached out to Bonta's office, the UC system and the CSU system for comment...

Full story at <https://amp.cnn.com/cnn/2025/06/06/politics/trump-california-federal-funding>.



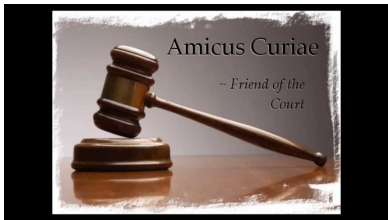
Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:05 AM](#) No comments:

Labels: [politics](#), [UC](#)

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

18 friends... But not UC

From [Forbes](#): *A group of the nation's leading research universities has requested that a federal judge allow them to file a legal brief supporting Harvard University's lawsuit against the Trump administration over more than \$2 billion in frozen federal grant money. The 18 institutions requesting permission to file an amicus curiae (or "friend of the court") brief are:*



Boston University; Brown University; California Institute of Technology; Colorado State University; Dartmouth College; Johns Hopkins University; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Michigan State University; Oregon State University; Princeton University; Rice University; Rutgers University; Tufts University; University of Maryland, College Park; University of Oregon; University of Pennsylvania; University of Pittsburgh; and Yale University.

The request was granted on Friday by Judge Allison D. Burroughs, who is presiding over the federal lawsuit. The schools have not yet filed the brief, but in their request they state that each of them "has received millions of dollars in federal investments in scientific research over the decades." ...

Full story at <https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelnietzel/2025/06/07/18-research-universities-back-harvards-lawsuit-against-funding-cuts/>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:35 AM](#) No comments:

Labels: [Boston University](#), [Brown University](#), [CalTech](#), [Dartmouth](#), [Harvard](#), [Johns Hopkins](#), [Michigan State University](#), [MIT](#), [Oregon State U](#), [Princeton U](#), [Rice](#), [Rutgers](#), [Tufts](#), [U of Maryland](#), [u of Oregon](#), [U of Pennsylvania](#), [UC](#), [Yale](#)

Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 17

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From the [Harvard Crimson](#): *The Harvard Medical School renamed its diversity office and announced changes to several major diversity, equity, and inclusion programs [last] Wednesday in the latest rollback of diversity infrastructure at Harvard. In a morning email to affiliates, HMS Dean George Q. Daley '82 wrote that the changes were part of an effort to "adapt to the ever-evolving national landscape" and "better reflect" the school's work going forward.*

Daley announced that the Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership would now operate as the Office for Culture and Community Engagement, with a continued focus on "opportunity and access" and "community-building." He also wrote that the Office of Recruitment and Multicultural Affairs, which is part of the school's Program in Medical Education, would be absorbed into the Office of Student Affairs as part of a broader leadership transition.

But among the most significant changes was the quiet removal of HMS' multi-paragraph diversity statement — a document that had outlined a sweeping commitment to social justice, antidiscrimination, and health equity. The now-deleted text included pledges to "challenge discrimination," "address disparities and inequities," and "actively promote social justice." It also included committing the school to acknowledging "the strengths and weaknesses of our history" and to prioritizing "diversity and inclusion" in the development of school policies and practices...

Full story at <https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2025/6/5/hms-dei-renaming/>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:20 AM](#) No comments:     

Labels: [diversity](#), [Harvard](#), [politics](#)

The Legislature Wants No Cuts for UC



The legislature has to pass a "budget" by June 15 under the state constitution. However, court decisions have given the legislature the power to determine what a budget is. So it can pass something, call it a budget, and continue to negotiate with the governor.

Nonetheless, we now know something about what the legislature wants for UC and

that is no cuts - as opposed to the 3% cut proposed by the governor in his May Revise budget proposal.

The legislative description of its proposed state budget for 2025-26 can be found at:

<https://sbud.senate.ca.gov/system/files/2025-06/legislature-s-version-of-the-budget-summary-sb-101-final.pdf>. (See p. 10 for statement on UC.)

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:05 AM](#) No comments:     

Labels: [governor](#), [legislature](#), [politics](#), [State Budget](#), [UC budget crisis](#)

Monday, June 9, 2025

Lots of cash now but maybe not in the future - Part 3

We continue to note the seeming paradox of more state cash coming in than projected and yet a budget squeeze. From Jason Sisney of the LAO:

May Income Taxes Beat Forecast. Preliminary data from the state's tax agencies show that May 2025 personal and corporate income tax revenues beat the May Revision projections for that month by \$700 million (8.0%), with \$602 million of the gain resulting from better-than-projected final, extension, and quarterly estimated personal income tax (PIT) receipts. The remainder resulted largely from lower-than-projected corporation tax (CT) refunds.



Withholding Growth Has Been Moderating. As the Legislative Analyst's Office recently noted, the "winter uptick in PIT withholding growth has moderated." PIT withholding was up \$271 million (3.3%) from last May, but fell just short of the May Revision estimates for the month of May 2025...

Full story at <https://jasonsisney.substack.com/p/may-income-taxes-beat-projections>.

We'll get the latest cash receipts information from the state controller later this week.

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Contributors

-  [California Policy Issues](#)
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-  [UCLA Faculty Association](#)

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:35 AM No comments:

Labels: State Budget

Lawsuit

A lawsuit challenging federal research grant cancellations has been filed by three researchers at UC-San Francisco. This is a "private" effort rather than a filing by UC or the Regents. However, one of the lawyers filing the suit is UC-Berkeley law dean Erwin Chermerinsky. And it is filed on behalf of the three plus "all others similarly situated."

The current plaintiffs are:

Dr. Neeta Thakur is a pulmonary and critical care specialist at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) who examines the role of social and environmental stressors on asthma and COPD in historically marginalized communities. She currently serves as Medical Director of the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital Chest Clinic and is an associate professor of medicine and pulmonary and critical care clinician at UCSF.

Ken Alex is Director of Project Climate at the Center for Law, Energy & the Environment (CLEE) at UC Berkeley School of Law. He founded Project Climate, a think tank designed to move promising environmental research into the policy realm quickly.

Dr. Nell Green Nylen joined the Wheeler Water Institute at the Center for Law, Energy & the Environment (CLEE) at UC Berkeley School of Law as a Research Fellow in 2013. Since 2016, she has been a Senior Research Fellow at CLEE, providing analysis and recommendations at the intersection of law, policy, and science to inform water governance and management.

Robert Hirst has an academic appointment as a researcher at the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley.

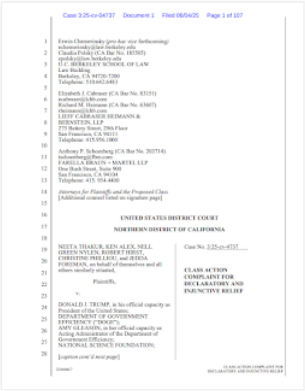
Christine Philiou is a member of the faculty at UC Berkeley who engages in research.

Jedda Foreman has an academic appointment as a researcher at UC Berkeley.

The defendants are President Trump and a series of federal granting agencies. And the remedy sought is basically the voiding of the grant terminations for the three named plaintiffs and others at UC in their class.

You can find the lawsuit at:

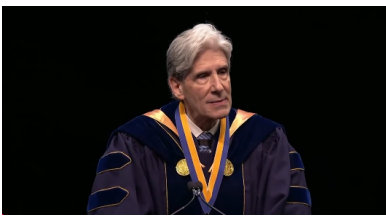
<https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.cand.450653/gov.uscourts.cand.450653.1.0.pdf>.



Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments:

Labels: politics, UC, UC-Berkeley, UC-San Francisco

Excerpt



As blog readers will know, UCLA Chancellor Frenk's inauguration ceremony was held last Thursday. It included a speech by the chancellor as well as remarks by others. The speech ran over a half an hour. However, yours truly picked out an eight-minute excerpt to highlight below, which seems to indicate his evaluation of the events of spring quarter 2024 and what needed to be done, given those events.

You can see the excerpt below. I have also provided a transcript (imperfect computer-generated from YouTube).

UCLA Chancellor Julio Frenk ...



Or direct to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHkeVLysAnw>.

Imperfect computer transcript:

...An essential step in that process is to examine the events that open, fully divided our campus during the spring of 2024 and engage in a deliberate effort to which reconciliation and repair, so we may turn polarization into pluralism. I pledge to continue to listen to you as we work together to restore and reaffirm the bonds that define a true community.

At a time when many voices question the value of universities, I submit that our value is indivisible from our values. The values that I enumerated at the outset of this address should be our beacon. As we navigate the turbulent waters of higher education, we must make sure that they are not a mere declaration of good intentions, but a guide to the way we connect to each other in everyday encounters, so that we may value both our differences and our common sense of purpose.

There are two points on which I am sure we can all agree. First, by recognizing the inherent dignity of every human being, we must actively prevent and combat discrimination. Nobody on that campus should feel unsafe because of who they are or what they believe in. Remember. Remember that when one group becomes the target of bigotry, no one is safe.

This is why we have launched a comprehensive initiative to combat antisemitism, which is an essential element of our determination to end all forms of prejudice and intolerance on our campus.

We should respect each person's right to embrace all dimensions of their identity. At the same time, we must avoid the corrosive tendency to see people solely through identity based categories, assuming that they are uniformly alike within those groups and losing sight of their individuality. Such distortions flatten individual identities and lead to rejecting entire groups as the other, this is the ultimate form of dehumanization. History teaches us that stigmatization of groups, if left unchecked, has led to the worst atrocities.

Fortunately, most members of our community share a common ground of empathy and kindness to connect, to connect with each other beyond the confines of faceless categories.

Second, we should agree that in a university, the way to process differences is through reason and dialog, not hate and violence. Good, good universities not only tolerate but cultivate diversity of thought.

These stand against dogma, conformity, and indoctrination.

And we can disagree passionately, even mentally, but always respectfully. Respect begins by never dismissing opposing perspectives but instead listening to them and engaging in dialog across differences.

...Creating the space for such engagement is one of the key roles that universities play as social institutions. To that end, I am announcing the launch of a series of campus community conversations. This will be a participatory process to build consensus around the fundamental questions of our coexistence. What is each of us to fellow members of our community, and what can each of us expect from fellow members of our community? By undertaking this kind of conversation, we will provide a valuable service not only to our university and higher education, but to society as a whole.

At this time of extreme polarization, after my initial listening exercise, I have concluded that the majority of us want to be part of such a conversation. In doing so, we can become an exemplary institution.

As your new chancellor, I commit to engage passionately with everyone so that together we can restore connective relationships to all in our community.

For me, this work. This work. This work is profoundly personal. The defining moment of my life happened when my paternal grandparents were forced to leave Germany in the 1930s, along with their two children. My father, who was six years old, and his sister, who was for a series of coincidences, took them to Mexico, a nation that was poorer in material wealth but richer in what mattered. Then and now.

Kindness to strangers. It is relatively easy to be kind to people we know, but it is much harder to be kind to people who are different. Yet it was such kindness that saved my family's life and made my own life possible. Like all my siblings and cousins, I was brought up with a sense of duty to reciprocate kindness to strangers.

As a result, we have all devoted our careers to public service through science, medicine, music, identification. This has been the pathway that brings me to you today. I am proud to be the first Latino Chancellor of UCLA. Me siento orgulloso de ser el primer rector latino de la UCLA.

While we are all proud of our respective heritages, we must also acknowledge that each of us holds diverse identities. The resolve to stand against the external forces of discrimination and

intolerance can be strengthened, if we embrace our own inner diversity. In this way, we can counter and exclusionary definition of the others and find true connection, not only with those we know, but especially with those we do not know, with people who may be strangers but are not strange to our common humanity. Each of us is all of us.

Exemplary universities must demonstrate to the larger world that such an enlightened pathway is indeed possible. I commit to share this university as everyone's chancellor...

Source of transcript (and entire speech): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3yKRqSM00M>.

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The entire ceremony including the speech is at:

<https://ia600107.us.archive.org/25/items/becerra-announces-for-governor-4-2-2025/Inauguration%20of%20UCLA%20Chancellor%20Julio%20Frenk%206-5-2025.mp4>.

The full related ceremony on the day before the inauguration featuring brief lectures by faculty is at:

https://ia600107.us.archive.org/25/items/becerra-announces-for-governor-4-2-2025/UCLA%20Inauguration_%20Bruin%20Talks%206-4-2025.mp4.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:20 AM No comments:     

Labels: diversity, UCLA

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